



Hanoi, 9 December 2021

Esteemed Excellencies,

On December 10, 2019, at the 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly held in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, the Veterans Association of Vietnam (VAVN) took over the VECONAC Chairmanship from the Cambodia Veterans Association in a solemn ceremony. Accordingly, for the second time, the VAVN had the honour to assume the role of VECONAC Chair from January 1 to December 31, 2020.

Regrettably, after the 19<sup>th</sup> GA was over, the COVID-19 pandemic broke out in the region, inflicting heavy damage to the economy, causing serious impact to the lives and livelihood of the people, and at the same time changing many practices in the life of mankind.

Overcoming numerous difficulties, all 10 VECONAC Member Countries agreed to attend the virtual Working Committee Meeting (WCM) on October 21, 2020. The participants attending the WCM unanimously requested the postponement of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting and the 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, and wanted the VAVN to continue assuming the role of VECONAC Chair until the end of 2021.

Entering the year 2021, the region and the world continued experiencing several outbreaks of the COVID-19 pandemic with new variants which cause severe impacts. Until now, the pandemic has caused the loss of life of five million people, among them, tens of thousands of people from our VECONAC Member Countries.

In face of the pandemic, the member countries of our Confederation have exerted resilience, unity and creativity, overcoming many difficulties and managing to avoid interruption of activities in our VECONAC community.

On this occasion, the VAVN would like to convey its most sincere thanks and gratitude to the Leaders and colleagues of our esteemed VECONAC family for the kind sentiment and trust which have been given to it over the past two years. Your trust and assistance constitute great encouragement for the VAVN to accomplish its

important assignment of VECONAC Presidency which will be ended by the successful up-coming 33<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting and the 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly .

With the desire to reciprocate the valuable kindness of the VECONAC community, the VAVN has really wished to have opportunities to organise our events in the traditional, in-person manner, so that our brothers and sisters from the Confederation will be able to meet one another face-to-face in our country. Regretfully, the COVID-19 pandemic has not allowed us to do so. Later on, after the COVID-19 pandemic is effectively controlled, on the bilateral basis, the VAVN looks forward to inviting and welcoming as many delegations as possible from our esteemed VECONAC members to visit Vietnam-our beautiful country.

The year 2021 is coming to an end and we are about to enter the new year 2022. On behalf of the VAVN, I would like to convey to Excellencies Presidents, Vice Presidents and all members of VECONAC our best wishes of HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022, and wish all of you and your families good health, happiness and prosperity.

Please, accept our highest consideration.

Respectfully Yours,

VECONAC FOREVER, FOREVER VECONAC !

**PRESIDENT OF VECONAC  
PRESIDENT OF VAVN**



**Senior Lieutenant General (Ret) NGUYEN VAN DUOC**

To: Excellencies Presidents, Vice Presidents and all Members of VECONAC Member Countries.